

platform after a visit to South Vietnam, where he discovered that the number of political prisoners was increasing despite claims from the State Department. He later urged the Catholic Church to condemn war as "morally objectionable." Father Drinan continued to serve faithfully as he represented the constituents of Massachusetts in the House of Representatives for ten years.

His attention was not reserved to Vietnam or civil rights. Father Drinan was also an outspoken advocate for the underprivileged and, after leaving his Congressional office in 1980, he maintained his commitment to the poor and the marginalized. He served as the president for Americans for Democratic Action, and traveled the country giving speeches on hunger and the dangers of the arms race.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Reverend Robert Drinan, whose fierce devotion to the most vulnerable among us serves as a model for all of us who continue to serve those in need.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH
EDWARD GALLO

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 27, 2007

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, it is with the greatest respect and sincerity that I rise today to honor an exceptional community leader, the late Mr. Joseph Edward Gallo. Mr. Gallo, a prominent Merced County rancher, dairyman and cheese producer, died February 17, 2007 at his home in Livingston, California at the age of 87.

Joseph Gallo started life as an immigrant's son on September 11, 1919 in Antioch, California, and ended it as one of the most successful dairymen in the country. He was the youngest of three boys to parents Joseph Sr. and Susie Gallo who moved to California from the Piedmont region of northern Italy. At a young age, Joe moved to Modesto, California with his family, and attended Franklin Grammar School. In 1937, Joseph graduated from Modesto High School and began his studies at Modesto Junior College. He then enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and served in the Philippine Islands and Korea. In 1945, one year before he left the Army Joseph married Mary Ann Arata of Modesto and together they had three children: Peter Joseph, Michael David and Linda Ann. The family suffered a great loss in 1968 when 1st Lt. Peter Gallo was killed in action in Vietnam. Michael and Linda are partners in the Gallo business and farming enterprises, Michael serving as CEO since his father's retirement and Linda's husband Kenny is Ranch Operations Manager for the firm.

When Joseph returned home from the service, he became the ranch manager for his brothers' grape-growing operation, E&J Gallo Vineyards in Livingston. In 1966 Joseph married Patricia Morgan-Gardali of Modesto. Patricia and her nine year old son, Sam Gardali, joined the family, making their home in Livingston. During the 20 years he worked for his brothers' operation, he was also developing his own vineyard and cattle business. Joseph eventually accumulated 4,000 acres of vineyards, at one time becoming one of Califor-

nia's largest wine grape growers. In the years following, his interest in livestock developed and in 1979 Joseph built his first dairy with 4,000 milking cows. Four more dairies would follow as did the founding of the Joseph Gallo Dairy & Cheese Co. in 1982. In the 25 years since, Joseph's business has flourished and in addition to becoming a successful agricultural organization, it has become a leader in protecting the environment and public health for this and future generations. I remember as a child always hearing my father talk about what an amazing farmer Joe Gallo was and how impressed he was with how the Gallo operation had skillfully grown from a small ranch to one of the nation's most successful dairyman and cheese producers. His success was truly phenomenal and reflective of Joe's commitment, hard work and dedication to his business.

The Joseph Gallo Farms tradition and commitment to balancing success with environmental responsibility is unmatched and has set the standard for farming operations across the country. Joseph Gallo will be remembered as one of the early pioneers in using methane from manure as a source of electricity. He has been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and was most recently named the International Dairy Foods Association's Innovative Dairy Farmer of the Year. Joseph's interest in environmentally conscious farming had much to do with his love of the outdoors, especially hunting, fishing and traveling. His work has truly helped shape the future of environmentally-friendly farming and will forever be admired and remembered for his ingenuity.

Throughout his life, Joseph has supported and been involved with countless community organizations and foundations including the Livingston Community Health Center, Mercy Medical Center Merced, St. Jude's Catholic School and Emanuel Hospital Chairman's Club of Turlock. He was also a major contributor to the Veteran's Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. in memory of his son Peter. Joseph's legacy will also be memorialized in the Joseph Edward Gallo Recreation and Wellness Center at the University of California, Merced, after his son Michael and daughter Linda donated funds to its construction in their father's name.

Joseph Gallo is survived by his wife of 41 years, Patricia; his son Michael and wife Lori; his daughter Linda and husband Kenny Jelacich; his stepson Sam Gardali and wife Kay; and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son Peter, and his brother, Julio Gallo. He is also survived by his brother Ernest Gallo. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor and privilege to join our community and the Gallo family in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Joseph Edward Gallo. We lost a pioneer, a community leader and a dear friend in his passing.

INTRODUCTION OF THE KIDNEY
CARE QUALITY AND EDUCATION
ACT

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 27, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Kidney Care Quality and

Education Act that I am proud to introduce today with my colleague from Michigan, Mr. CAMP. This comprehensive legislation will help educate Americans about how to prevent and delay the onset of kidney disease and ensure high quality care for patients with irreversible kidney failure.

More than 400,000 Americans have kidney failure, which is also known as End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). The only treatment available to these patients is a kidney transplant or renal dialysis. Because there are so few kidneys available for transplantation, most dialysis patients must undergo 3-hour treatment sessions three to four times per week.

Diabetes and hypertension are two of the leading causes of kidney disease. We continue to see the numbers of Americans with these conditions rise, and as a result, we will continue to see more Americans suffering from chronic kidney disease. Statistics show that African Americans are particularly at risk for kidney disease and kidney failure. They make up more than one third of all patients on dialysis in this country. Most alarming, the growth rate of kidney failure among African Americans age 30 to 39 has risen 26 percent since 2000 and it shows no signs of stopping. African Americans have a higher risk of developing the conditions that lead to kidney failure. For example, the American Heart Association reports that more than 40 percent of African Americans have hypertension. African Americans with diabetes experience kidney failure about four times more often than white Americans with diabetes. In addition, African Americans are less likely to receive treatment in the early stages of the disease or to learn about how they can slow the progress of kidney disease.

The Kidney Care Quality and Education Act will help address these issues by improving public awareness about kidney disease and improving access to quality care. The importance of educating our citizens about kidney disease cannot be understated. The Kidney Care Quality and Education Act will provide funding to establish critical educational programs to increase public awareness about kidney disease treatment and prevention. These programs will also help people already suffering from chronic kidney disease and kidney failure, by providing important self-management skills that will improve their quality of life and help them continue their normal activities, such as working. This legislation also takes steps to improve the quality of kidney care by creating a 3-year Continuous Quality Improvement Initiative within the Medicare ESRD Program.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation, which also has the support of all sectors of the kidney care community. We should maintain our commitment to Americans with kidney failure by improving the quality of care for these patients and help slow the occurrence of chronic kidney disease and kidney failure.

CONGRATULATING MR. PAT LOBB

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 27, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Pat Lobb for being